
Poplar Springs Inn and Spa

Casanova, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, *Virginia Green* encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

Poplar Springs

"A luxury 21 room boutique hotel and european spa providing high end accommodations and services located on a 200 acre estate in the Virginia countryside."

Green Statement: We went green "to minimize our carbon foot print & environmental impact and to support local sustainability. To live and work in a healthy environment and protect a beautiful property."



CORE ACTIVITIES for Lodging

“☑” This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Lodging facilities. Participants self-certify that these activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to **Poplar Springs** can expect the following practices:

☑ **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Change linens only upon request
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Purchase water and energy efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic, and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Use linens service providers that employ "wet" versus "dry" cleaning

☑ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle Glass Bottles and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, steel cans, plastic, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
- Track overall waste bills
- Have numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill
- Fill up shampoo bottles
- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items
- Donate excess food from events

- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Purchase locally grown produce and other foods
- Purchase organic and “sustainably-grown” foods
- Do not use Styrofoam
- Use reusable dishware and glassware, and minimize use of disposables
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitches and filtered water instead of disposable water bottles
- Use screen based ordering system
- Use last-in/first out inventory and effective labeling system
- Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Make 2-sided copies/ printed materials
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Use “green” cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
- Have installed high efficiency hand-dryers in restrooms
- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Purchase low VOC carpets and fabrics
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex paints
- Properly recycle/dispose of thinners and solvents
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use a last-in/first-out inventory and labeling system
- Use less toxic materials
- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater
- Have a numeric goal to reduce water consumption over time
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Have:
 - high efficiency dishwashers
 - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
 - low flow toilets
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first)
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species
- Have cisterns and drip-line irrigation
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds
- Our “Tap Into Our Spring” program provides all guests with complementary re-usable water bottles to use and keep as well as water stations to fill up at.

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have a numeric goal of how much they want to reduce their energy usage over time
- Have an “energy management system” in place to track and meter energy usage
- Use:
 - compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
 - high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have geothermal heating and cooling
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Have installed additional insulation
- Use natural lighting
- Purchase EnergyStar-rated computers, copiers, and appliances

- Have thermal-rated windows and insulation
- Use directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Use fuel efficient vehicles or hybrid vehicles
- Use EnergyStar's Benchmarking Tools for the Hospitality Industry

☒ **Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a "green" or "environmentally-friendly" package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

For more information on **Poplar Springs Inn**, see www.poplarspringsinn.com or contact **Howard Feor** at hfoer@poplarspringsinn.com or **540-788-4600**.

For more information on **Virginia Green Lodging** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/lodging or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org



Virginia Green Lodging program is a supporting partner of **Virginia Green**, the Commonwealth's campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green** is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

